

Employment Projections

The Bureau of Labor Statistics develops projections of the labor force, economic growth, industrial output, and employment by industry and occupation for 10 years into the future. These projections provide a comprehensive and integrated framework for analyzing the implications of economic growth trends on the labor market and for employment by detailed industry and occupation. Occupational projections and descriptive information are developed for use in career guidance and education planning. They are also used to assess job opportunities for specific groups in the labor force such as youth, the disadvantaged, and college graduates. Bureau projections are based upon extensive analysis of current and past economic and employment relationships. The projections provide the basis for a variety of reports on employment needs generated by major categories of expenditures such as defense, health care, and infrastructure.

In addition to meeting general statutory responsibilities assigned to the Bureau (29 U.S.C. 1 and 2), programs in this office help fulfill the requirement of the Job Training Partnership Act of 1982 that the Secretary of Labor “develop projections of employment and job

Industry Employment Projections

Projections of U.S. Economic Growth and Industry Employment

This program provides a framework for studying the factors affecting long-range economic growth and employment by industry and occupation.

Data available

- Projections of gross domestic product (GDP), the demand and income composition of GDP, and other data that presents information about the U. S. economy at an aggregate national level of detail.
- Industry projections of output, employment, value added, and final demand developed in conjunction with the aggregate economic projections.
- Time series for input-output make and use tables, for detailed final demand and value added, in both current and constant dollars.

Coverage

- Total U.S. economy, major industry sectors, and detailed industries.

Source of data

- Bureau of Labor Statistics CES, CPS, and ES-202 surveys; Bureau of Economic Analysis National Income and Product accounts and the Interindustry Accounts; and Bureau of the Census surveys of businesses.

Reference period

- Projections 10 years into the future.

Forms of publication

- Articles in *Monthly Labor Review*.
- Bulletins.
- Data files on the Internet: <http://stats.bls.gov/emphome.htm>

Uses

- Basis for evaluating alternative economic policy options.
- Framework for analyzing future problems of labor use.
- Basis for developing estimates of occupational requirements by industry.

Labor Force Projections

This program provides projections of labor force, labor force participation rates, and civilian non-institutional population for detailed demographic groups.

Coverage

- The civilian non-institutional population 16 years of age and older, the civilian labor force, and civilian labor force participation rates for 136 age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin groups.

Source of data

- Historic data from the Current Population Survey.

Reference period

- Projections 10 years into the future.

Forms of publication

- Articles in *Monthly Labor Review*.
- Bulletins.
- Data files on the Internet: <http://stats.bls.gov/emphome.htm>

Uses

- Analysis of demographic characteristics of future workers.
- Analysis of future training and education needs.
- Development of business and industry marketing plans and evaluation of expansion programs.

Occupational Outlook

National Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix

The matrix provides detailed information on the distribution of occupational employment by industry.

Data available

- Distribution of occupational employment by industry for wage and salary workers, current and projected years.
- Distribution of industry employment by occupation for wage and salary workers, current and projected years.
- Distribution of industry employment by occupation and occupational employment by industry for wage and salary workers for the years 1983 through current year.
- Self-employed and unpaid family workers, only for total of all industries for historic, current, and projected years.

Coverage

- Over 500 detailed occupations and 240 detailed industries for current and projected year for wage and salary workers.
- For 1983 through current year, 296 detailed occupations and 187 detailed industries for wage and salary workers.

Sources of data

- Historical data for occupational staffing patterns of industries based on Occupational Employment Statistics Survey for nonagricultural wage and salary workers and Current Population Survey for workers in the agriculture and private household industries.
- Historical data on industry employment based on the

Current Employment Statistics survey.

- Historical data on self-employed and unpaid family workers based on the Current Population Survey.

Reference period

- Projection 10 years into the future.

Forms of publication

- Data files for 1983 through current year on diskette.
- Data files for current and projected years on the internet: <http://stats.bls.gov/emphome.htm>

Uses

- Analysis of changes in the occupational structure of detailed industries resulting from changes in technology, product mix, and other factors.
- Development of projections of occupational employment for detailed occupations by industry.
- Development of State and local area industry-occupation employment matrices.
- Analysis of the effect of government programs on employment by occupation.

National Occupational Projections

This program produces national occupational employment projections.

Data available

- National occupational employment for current and projected years for over 500 detailed occupations for all industries combined and within 240 detailed industries.

Coverage

- Total employment. Wage and salary workers for detailed industries. Self-employed and unpaid family workers only for total of all industries.

Source of data

- National Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix.

Forms of publication

- Articles in *Monthly Labor Review*.
- Articles in *Occupational Outlook Quarterly*.
- Biennially in *Occupational Outlook Handbook*.
- Biennially in *Occupational Projections and Training Data*.
- Biennially in *Career Guide to Industries*.
- Data files on the internet: <http://stats.bls.gov/emphome.htm>

Uses

- Career guidance and counseling, including preparation of the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*.
- Planning educational and training programs.
- Market research.
- Personnel planning and policy development in public and private organizations.
- Analyses of future labor market conditions.

Occupational Outlook Handbook

This biennial publication provides career guidance material.

Data available

- For each occupation: Nature of the work; working conditions; employment; job outlook and earnings; related occupations; sources of additional information; and training, other qualifications, and advancement.

Coverage

- About 250 occupations.

Sources of data

- Data from the National Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix on current and projected employment.
- Analysis of secondary sources, including information on education, earnings, and demographic and technological trends. Personal contact with business firms, professional societies, trade associations, labor organizations, educational institutions, and government agencies.

Uses

- Career guidance and counseling.
- Personnel planning and policy development.
- Basic reference on occupational trends and labor market analysis.

Career Guide to Industries

This biennial publication provides career guidance material.

Data available

- For each industry: Nature of the industry; working conditions; employment; occupations in the industry; training and advancement; earnings; outlook; and sources of additional information.

Coverage

- Forty industries.

Sources of data

- Data from the National Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix on current and projected employment.
- Analysis of secondary sources, including information on economic and technological trends. Personal contact with business firms, professional societies, trade associations, labor organizations, educational institutions, and government agencies.

Uses

- Career guidance and counseling.
- Personnel planning and policy development.
- Basic reference on industrial trends and labor market analysis.

Occupational Outlook Quarterly

This quarterly magazine is designed to keep users of the *Occupational Outlook Handbook* informed about new occupational studies and other topical items of interest between editions of the *Handbook*.

Coverage

- Varied topics including demographic characteristics of workers, educational attainment statistics, employment trends, job market experience and earnings of college graduates, employment outlook for occupations, job search aides, labor force trends, new and emerging occupations, occupational research findings, salary trends, training opportunities, and unusual occupations.

Sources of data

- Analysis of secondary sources on education, earnings, and demographic and technological trends.
- Personal interviews with professionals in many occupations and contact with professional and trade associations, educational institutions, and government agencies.

Uses

- Career guidance and counseling.

Occupational Projections and Training Data

This biennial publication is a statistical supplement to the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*.

Data available

- For over 500 detailed occupations: Projected numerical and percent change in employment and projected estimates of job openings due to growth and total as well as net replacement needs. Completions of institutional education and training programs by Classification of Instructional Programs codes.

- Quartile rankings of over 500 occupations by current employment, employment change, job openings, earnings, unemployment rates, prevalence of part-time work, and significant sources of formal training.

Coverage

- Over 500 occupations.

Sources of data

- National Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix.
- Current Population Survey.
- National Center for Education Statistics.

Uses

- Education planning.
- Career guidance and counseling.
- Personnel planning and policy development.

Selected Publications

Bulletins

Employment Outlook: 1996-2006, Bulletin 2502 (1998).

Career Guide to Industries, 1998-99 edition, Bulletin 2503 (1998).

Occupational Outlook Handbook, 1998-99 edition, Bulletin 2500 (1998).

Occupational Projections and Training Data, 1998 edition, Bulletin 2501 (1998).

BLS Handbook of Methods, Bulletin 2490, ch. 13, (1997).

Monthly Labor Review articles/reports

Employment Outlook: 1996-2006 (November 1997).

“BLS Projections to 2006—a summary.”

“The US Economy to 2006.”

“Labor Force 2006: Slowing Down and Changing Composition.”

“Industry Output and Employment Projections to 2006.”

“Occupational Employment Projections to 2006.”

Evaluating the 1995 BLS Projections (September 1997).

“Introduction.”

“Labor Force Projections.”

“Industry Employment Projections.”

“Occupational Employment Projections.”

“Employment Trends in Textiles and Apparel, 1973-2005” (August 1997).

“Characteristics of Multiple Jobholders” (March 1997).

“Which Industries are Sensitive to Business Cycles?” (February 1997).

“U.S. Consumers: Which Jobs are they Creating?” (June 1996).

“Earnings of College Graduates, 1993” (December 1995).

“College Graduates in ‘High School’ Jobs: a Commentary” (December 1995).

“The Nature of Occupational Employment Growth, 1983-93” (June 1995).

“Further Analysis of the Labor Market for College Graduates” (February 1995).

Occupational Outlook Quarterly, selected articles

“One-Stop Career Centers: All in One Place and Everywhere” (Fall 1997).

“Jobs Associated with the Internet” (Summer 1997).

“Nontraditional Education: Alternative Ways to Earn Your Credentials” Spring 1997).

“The 1994-2005 Job Outlook in Brief” (Spring 1996).

“A New Way to Classify Occupations by Education and Training” (Winter 1995-96).

“Is there Another Degree in Your Future?” (Winter 1993-94).

Data Files on the Internet

(<http://stats.bls.gov/emphome.htm>)

Industry employment and input-output projections

Data for 185 industries for 1987, 1992, 1995, and 2006 include: Input-output use and make coefficients, total final demand and demand components, and employment and output by industry. Additional data are available annually on employment and output from 1958 through 1995 and on final demand from 1977 through 1995. All dollar-based data are available in both current and 1992 constant dollars.

Industry-occupation matrix

The 1996 and 2006 matrices contain employment data for 512 detailed occupations in 240 detailed industries.

Labor force projections

Data on the civilian labor force, civilian non-institutional population, and civilian labor force participation rates for 136 groups by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin for projected years 1997 through 2006.

Data Files on Diskette

Employment in 296 detailed occupations and 187 detailed industries for 1983 through current year.